(b) whether it is also a fact that Government have negotiated with Japan and other countries to lift more stocks of marine products from the East Coast;

(c) if so, the details of such negotiation conducted by Government with Japan for export of marine products;

(d) by when this agreement would come into force; and

(e) the steps being taken to create a new agency to develop exports of marine products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) There is no proposal under consideration of the Government of India for establishing a separate agency for export of marine products from the East Coast.

(b) No Separate negotiations have been undertaken by the Government of India with Japan and other country for buying more marine products from the East Coast.

(c) to (e) Do not arise.

Anti-dumping measures within WTO ambit

1809. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are seriously considering to stop dumping of various goods in the country while protecting the domestic industry within WTO ambit;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) to (c) Sections 9, 9A, 9AA, 9B and 9C of the Customs Tariff Act, 1975 (as amended) and the Customs Tariff (Identification, Assessment and Collection of Anti-dumping Duty on Dumped Articles and for Determination of Injury) Rules. 1995 (as amended) and Customs Tariff (Identification, Assessment d-iu Collection of Countervailing Duty on Subsidised Articles and for Determination of

Injury) Rules, 1995 framed thereunder form the legal basis for anti-dumping and anti-subsidy investigations and for the levy of anti-dumping and countervailing duties. These laws are in consonance with the WTO's Agreement on implementation of Article VI of the GATT 1994 (commonly known as Agreement on Anti-Dumping) and Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing measures.

The Directorate General of Anti-Dumping and Allied Duties (DGAD) was constituted in April, 1998. However, the Designated Authority in Department of Commerce has been handling Anti-Dumping cases since 1992. Since 1992 the DGAD has initiated Anti-dumping investigations into 143 cases involving number of countries. The status of these 143 cases is given below:—

Cases in which final findings have been issued	107
Cases in which preliminary findings have been brought out and further proceedings are on	16
Cases under investigation for preliminary findings	16
Cases initiated but closed	4
Tow.:	143

The purpose of Anti-dumping duties is to counteract trade distortion caused by dumping and the consequential injury to the domestic industry.

Import of vegetables and fruits

†1810. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that import of vegetables and fruits worth rupees 250 crores has been made during the last quarter; and

(b) whether this is not alarming as it will cause a loss of rupees one thousand crore per year to Indian farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) and (b) As per

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.